

ΝΕΟΦΥΤΟΑΣΤΡΟΛΟΓΟΣ:

1757

THE

Novice-Astrologer

INSTRUCTED:

IN

A NEW-YEARS-GIFT

TO

Mr. William Lilly;

Occasioned by the Scurrility,

Scandal, Ignorance, and Flattery of
his Merlin for the ensuing year.

With two Dedicatory Epistles; the
One to the Learned Divines, the Other
to the Honest Astrologers of this Nation.

By G. J. or J. G. which Lilly the Parasite pleaseth.

Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? there is
more hope of a fool, than of him, Prov.

The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, &c. ——
wherefore rebuke them sharply [cuttingly, ἀποτρόπας]
that they may be sound in the faith, Tit. i. 12, 13.

London: Printed for E. C. and are to be sold at
the Royal Exchange, Westminster-hall, and
Paul's Church-yard. 1660.

Feb. 23. 1659

To the Learned Divines of this Nation,
whether Presbyterians, or Independents.

Learned Sirs,

Although by reason of the self-ends and private Interests of vain-glorious and ignorant persons, the Science of Astrology hath had the misfortune to be thought repugnant to your Sacred Studies; yet if it be duly (and without prejudice) considered, they may not only both stand together, but be assisting unto each other: The one, consulting the Lesser [though the more Divine] Book of Scriptures; the other, the Greater [and the more Natural] Book of Creatures.

In ancient times, among the *Egyptians* (as your learned selves well know) there were none admitted into your Holy Order without being vested with a competent knowledge in Astrology. I readily acknowledge, that the Errors vented, and Imposturisms practised under the Golden wings of this Art, are sufficient to anticipate your better thoughts from a serious Inspection and examination thereof. And it were a thing superlatively unjust, to enforce you, with the good Wine thereof, to drink the Dregs also.

Astrology is a fair and beautifull Virgin, though by many rendred a Notorious strumpet ! The Fair *Urania* is every way most accomplished and lovely ! It is my humble request therefore, that you would not consider it as it is rendred by Ignorant persons practising it ; but as it is (untainted) in it self. The Lute is a most melodious Instrument, being touched by the skilful fingers of a Master in Musick ; but handled by a Porter, or Carman, from a Barn-door you may hear as pleasing a sound. It is Astrologies greatest unhappiness, that her pretended favorites are her greatest enemies.

Learned Friends ! The Design of this little Book is to take off the ugly and deformed vizzard from the face of Astrology, that for many years it hath been compelled to wear, by the subtill cunning of one, who under pretence thereof hath been (*sine ratione, vel religione*) too bold and sawcy, not only with her, but your Learned selves. The Author hereof wisheth all honour to a Learned settled Ministry, and Astrology freed from Sycophantique Practisers ; and that the learned Divine and honest Astrologer (as in times past) might shake hands with each other, and Divinity and Astrology stand together.

Vale.

To the Honest Astrologers of this Nation.

GENTLEMEN !

You need not wonder at the sight, or subject of this small Tractate ; for it drives at nothing but the Salvage of Astrologers Honour and Credit, and your own Reputation. If you would know why I oppose Mr. Lilly, (who pretends himself the onely Master of Astrologie) it is because he hath opposed his Art, and turned his back upon the truth thereof. Had he been true to the Science, unto which he so largely pretends, I had forborn this pains, and prevented your trouble of perusal : But he appearing so repugnant (as I have shewed) to his Art in every thing he writes, hath not onely made Shipwrack of his own Repute, but [like a prodigious Prodigal] lays the Honour of Astrologie, and your selves (also) in the dust. For what perlon is he, that can be brought to believe there is life and moisture remaining in the smaller Trees, when the [pretended] Cedar is dry and sapless ?

To the Honest Astrologers.

(1)

I well hoped that some of you (more able) would have eased me of this task, and unmask'd this Arch Pretender before now. But since his Errors are so eminently spread and promoted, to the great scandal of Astrologie, and hitherto no one hath offered to question him--- I adjudged it convenient (in recompence of his scurrilities) to stop his course at this time, lest in the height of his folly, he suffer more dangerously, and run mad beyond the cure of all probable Reason.

If, for this my pains, I am not requited with a Trepan, I shall not need to fear the force of my Antagonists Pen; being conscious to my self, I have not mis-represented him in a syllable. However, if he judge himself injured, or find himself troubled at any thing in this Discourse, let him, rationally, (not railingly) acquit himself from those Errors charged upon him; or else by his silence, acknowledge himself as great an Impostor, as this Treatise pronounces him; that so the world may be undeceived, and the Honour of Your Selves and Art, preserved.

Vale.



ΝΕΟΦΤΟΑΣΤΡΟΛΟΓΟΣ:

The Novice-Astrologer

INSTRUCTED:

IN
A NEW-YEARS-GIFT

TO

Mr. William Lilly.

NO sooner came the *Merlin of Lilly* (that Arch-Parasite) from the Press, flying about into the world, after its wonted rate; but being informed that he had brought his *Legs to the Stocks*, and his *Stiff Neck to the Halter of Confession*, I was desirous to see whether he had acquitted himself like a true Penitent, sorrowing his fear'd Conscience in the brinish tears of Contrition; acknowledging (with sorrow) his Mistakes committed, and all those Errors and Ignorances charged upon

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him,

him, in the *King of Swedes Nativity*, and the *Spurious Prognosticator*.

But behold ! upon a due Examination of this his pretended *Recantation Almanack*, I finde him lypling and jabbering after his wonted nonsensical manner, as if he were every way uncapable of rendring one wise Sentence or Word in his own defence. And although he hath been so notably baited, even to the loosing the *Nose of his Reputation and Credit in the Art he professeth*, he passeth his *Hunters* like a flye Deer, and gives all their Checques, and Counter-Checques a fair go-by, even as he were none of their game, or any thing at all concerned in their chasing him. Onely thus—— (that you may adjudge him sufficiently heated and affrighted) he frisks up his dirty tayl in a fury, and like the *Scythian Beast*, squirts out his filth (thereby hoping the better to escape) in the Faces of his Pursuers. —— Complaining of his being hard dealt with by *Stitching Pens*, and by *Botchers*, not *Artists*; and that it is beneath him to answer a *Boy*, or impudent ranting *Fool*, that dares not own his name to be *G. J. or J. G.* says he shoule render himself ridiculous (being an *Eagle*, an *Owl* rather)

ther) to catch at a *Flye*; and insinuates to his Readers, That he hath no *Antagonists* but *Ranters and Atheists*, (both which E- pithers the best befit himself of any that I know.) After all which *Billings-gate Lan- guage*, (instead of a solid Vindication) with a company of *Ignorant, Contradicto- ry, Groundless Quacks for the Swede*, and a Bundle of *Abuses to Astrologers, and Astrologie beside*, —— *Exit Merlinus Anglicus.*

Of all which Barbarous and Ridiculous Stuff, I need in strictness, take no further notice then this —— *LILLY WRIT IT!* *A Fellow that cannot tell how to rea- son, but to raile onely!* That knows nothing of *Astrologie*, but the name; which he makes use of, as a *Cloak to cover his Ignorance!* That knows neither how to take, or to make an *Argumsent*! That complies with any *Go- vernment*, so that he may be thought the *State-Astrologer!* In which respects, I ac- count him beneath the revenge of the Pen of any ingenious Person or Scholar; and would have him therefore to know, that the grand reason why I set not my name at length in my Books against him, is, the probability of my purchasing the censure of

of the ingenious and learned Artists, for entering the Lists *per Nominem*, with so base and low-orb'd a Fellow; unfitting for a Man to Cope with, much less an Artist.

Nevertheless, in regard of my promise to the world in my last Lash of this Quack, entituled, *Ψευδασεράογ*; or, *The Spurious Prognosticator*; and lest that he should cry Victory before he be harnessed for the Battel, and so in his own conceit pass for a Conqueror; — I will rip him up, and shew his Nakedness and Folly to the world, somewhat more largely then he hath done, although his own Pen hath been a sufficient Index thereof, in his idle and addle Fictions for the ensuing year. Wherein (as briefly as I may) I will prove him to be the greatest Enemy to Astrologie that this age hath brought forth; a mere Ignorant in it, though he quack so much under the Canopy of it; an Illiterate, Abusive, Pragmatical Fellow, void of Civility, Ingenuity and Learning.

And that I may not loose him in my Chase, I will observe the same Method as in my last, viz. First, to begin with his Epistle; Secondly, his general Prog; Thirdly, his *Monethly Fictions*. And then I shall appeal

appeal to the world, whether he be not an Owl, rather then an Eagle in Astrologie.

S E C T. I.

His Epistle Examined.

William Lilly in the beginning of his Epistle, makes his Introduction to his Excuse, with a notorious Contradiction of himself, and a most high and injurious Scandal to Astrologie, and the ingenious Students thereof, in these words — *The many turnings, and windings, and changes of Government in England in 1659. what Man or Angel could predict?* — And a little further he saith, --- *They (meaning the Changes, &c.) were not in any way demonstrable, or to be found out by the sharpest Rules of Astrologie.* Had Mr. L. been Friend, either to Himself, Astrologie, or Astrologers, he could never have made so Contradictious, Senseless and Ridiculous an Excuse: for (1.) herein, he gives the Lye to all that ever himself hath formerly, and now written: and (2.) he bespatters all those ingenious Artists that did predict

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(and that from the known Rules of Astrologie) those many Changes that happened in England 1659. And (3) he casts dirt in the beautiful Face of Astrologie it self, insinuating an uncertainty, or deficiency of its Rules and Aphorisms, and a perfect impossibility of any Man or Angel to predict those Changes mentioned thereby.

1. *He giveth the Lye most broadly and shamefully to himself; for in all his party-coloured works formerly, he rantingly (and ravingly also) argues against the Divines-- That in the great Book of Heaven, are all Changes on Earth written; and that himself was born to predict them, sometimes more tacitely, at other times more largely.* See his Alm. 1655. and his Epistle to his Alm. 1658. in particular, where he says,---*There is no Emergency, good or bad, that happens on Earth, but hath a full manifestation from the Configurations of the Heavens.* And that Italy, France, and his Holiness himself, have cause to remember how ominous his Predictions have proved to them. Nay, he cracks more largely in his Worlds Catastrophe,---- That what he cannot do by Common Rules of Astrologie, he can by Angels and Spirits: yea, so well is he acquainted with such Whimsies

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Whimsies, and Vanities (as he proclaims it himself) that he shall go near (when time serves) to give every Nation of Europe a touch of its duration and continuance, from considering the Angel, or Genius of it. But now neither He, nor Man or Angel is able to predict any thing of Mundane Affairs, from the Rules of Astrologie: by which it conspicuously appears, that Mr. L. and his skill also is subject to a strange kind of Fluctuation.

Nunc huc, nunc illuc, exempli nubis aquosa.

Now here, soon there, much like a Watrish Cloud.

But tell me, Mr. L. canst thou expect to pass thus to the world undiscovered, and still be thought an Astrologer? Dost thou think and believe, all men are as ignorant and contradictory as thy self? If not,----

Oh! William! William! monstrous William Lilly!

How cam'st thou here, to shew thy self so silly?

2. *He abusively bespatters all ingenious Artists*

Artists too. For, doth it handsomly follow, because Mr L. is ignorant in Astrology, and (by consequence) of predicting those eminent Changes which hapned in 1659. that therefore all Ingenious and true-born Artists are so too? If Mr L. like an unexpert traveller, misseth the way he is to go, and tumbleth into a Bog, or Quagmire, Must he therefore be angry at those persons acquainted with the Road, that they do not tumble in with him for company? What fault was it of Mr VVharton, Trigg, Tanner, Wing, Gadbury, &c. that Mr L. presented himself an Ideot (instead of an Artist) to the World, in his botching, bungling Predictions? That he must thus traduce their skill, and impeach their Reputation in Astrology, as if they were as very ignorant therein as himself.

But Mr L. having proved himself a perfect Ignorant in the Art he professeth, by his unclerklike and unwarrantable Predictions, (and seeing R. L. P. gone, and his Northern Lion Rampant going,) is resolved, as much as in him lies, to down with Astrology also, that the honest Astrologers themselves may fall likewise: Whose ruine and destruction it is plain he thirsts after

after, for their presuming to detect him and his Ignorance, he being (it seems) captivated by that Ranting and Tyrannical Principle, described by the Poet, —

Pereant amici, dummodo una & inimici pereant.

*He cares not though Friends ruin'd bee,
So Enemies bear them company.*

3. *He casts dirt in the face of Astrology also: for if by the Aphorisms and Rules thereof, others were enabled to predict those Changes spoken of, then is not Astrology so incapacons or deficient, as Mr L. here renders it, but by the Rules thereof other persons (viz. those severall men before mentioned) were enabled to predict those Changes, &c. Ergo, &c. But Mr L. seeing plainly enough his own Reputation begin to sink, and his Writings every where hissed off the Stage with disparagement, is not contented to fall alone, but would fain give Astrology its fatall blow, that both might perish together. Not unlike the Devill, or Dragon, mentioned in the Revelations, who not well pleased to tumble headlong from Heaven*

Heaven singly, drew down a third part of the Stars with him. But how will Mr L. excuse his Gypsie-like Jugling (to say no worse of it) to the *King of Sweden*? Or, hath he promised him victory over the *rising King of Denmarke* by an Art more certain and indubitable than he believes Astrologie? If so be he hath so done, he *cannot but suffer a cloud of sorrow to pass over his brazen brow, and Vermilion to distain his shameless cheeks, to hear of the success that hath answered his spurious presages.* But of this more anon.

I proceed to some other passages. M.L. is now come to Apologize more particularly, and endeavours to excuse himself for flattering *R.L.P.* thus--- *Observing Richard, by consent of the Council of State, and Officers of the Army, owned Protector*--- *And seeing him courted by Embassadours and Agents in October, at what time we were writing our monthly Observations, for we write those first, in regard that the Ephemeris and Table of Houses are difficult to Print, so that nothing seriously (as we ought to have done) we laid it as a positive foundation (without observing the punctum temporis of his first admittance, or birth, &c.)*

These

These are the wise words of *William Lilly*: Now, let but the Ingenious Reader behold the notable Non-sense and unconnexeness of them; and if he can (after a due and impartiall scanning thereof) make either head or tayl, truth or fence of them, I shall not in the least envy his happiness; but I must protest impartially my ignorance of them. I have pointed them exactly, and truly related them, as I find them in his Book, that he may not complain of Abuse, or mis-representation.

But to run them over a little,---I would demand of Mr L. what stead this Apology stands him in, if I should admit he means something by it? What is it to us, or to the wiping off the ignorance and imposturism that sticks and clings as close as a Convulsion to him, to say --- *That he writes his Ephemeris and table of Houses first*? As if the World were any thing concerned which part of his fooleries first pollute the Press: but were there any kind or colour of excuse in this silly conceit, it is nevertheless a meer forgery.--- *For he writes neither the Ephemeris, nor Tables of Houses himself; but honest J. Sponge transcribes the Ephemeris for him, and the Table of Houses hath*

hath been standing (ready composed) this ten years and upwards at Mrs Brudenels within Newgate ; so that the edge of this pitifull Apology is perfectly blunted, and the difficulty of his Table of Houses to Print, clearly invalidated. (2.) I would demand of *Lilly* what he means by this strange Parenthesis --- (as we ought to have done) --- for it hath no manner of relation, nor is any way kin unto the premises ; unless we shall adjoyn it to --- *So that nothing seriously* --- This way, I confess, although we cannot make sence of it, we may Truth--- For *Lilly* in his Almanack hath done nothing seriously, or like an Artist, as he ought to have done. So that you see he is catch'd with a truth before he is aware.

Sæpe quod insipiens finxerat esse, fuit.

*What for a time this fellow fain'd to be,
He's prov'd at last so in reality.*

Or, if his --- *so that nothing seriously, &c.* can bear any other interpretation, it must be this --- That he writes altogether in jest ! (3.) I would fain be informed by

Mr *L.*

Mr *L.* what he intends his Reader should understand by these words --- *We laid IT as a positive foundation?* If the Relative *IT* have any Antecedent, it must then be, either his Ephemeris, and Table of Houses, or else, the Addresses made to *Richard L.P.* The Ephemeris and Tables of Houses cannot be the Antecedent, because they are no foundations of Astrologicall Predictions ; but a time truly proposed or known, with the figure of heaven set thereunto, is the true Radix of them. Nor can the Addresses to *R.L.P. &c.* be the Antecedent, unless we conclude, that *Lilly* writes altogether by Chess : It must therefore follow, --- That *Lilly* is guilty of gross Non-sence in the passage urged before us. Thus we see that *Lilly*, by endeavouring to excuse himself, contracts greater Errors ; making his writings the only pattern of *Penelope's Web* : Just as if he were either besides himself, or haunted with that evill Spirit mentioned by the Poer. ---

*Diruit, edificat, mutat quadrata rotundis.
He pulls all down, he sets up all again,
His Squares for rounds are changed in his
brain.*

A little after Mr *L.* comes to confession in earnest, and thinks he explains himself to purpose, when he acknowledgeth, — *Our too much credulity upon the many addressees, --- led us into an error.* Did it so? Do you not therefore deserve to be lashed for the same? What had you to do to mind the Addresses? You pretend to Astrology: Unless by this you implicitly confess your self a States-Mountebanke, and one that Quacks under pretence thereof; and acknowledge your self thereby to be (as in truth you are) only the Astrological News-monger. May not any man, perfectly ignorant in Astrology, predict prejudice or happiness to Protectors, Kings, and Nations, as well as wise *William Lilly*, that ghessteth thereat (as he confesses to have done) by the Addresses and Complexions of the times? Is this to be the most faithfull propagator of an Art? Or, an Eagle in Christian Astrology? Is it not rather to be an Impudent-ignorant Quack? Oh, the sordid Ignorance and quackishness of *William Lilly*!

After he hath made himself thus ridiculous, as you have heard; to prove himself (yet) more fottish and vain, he cracks of his

his predicting the change of Government in *England* to some of the Protectors friends privately: telling them, that the Government was too heavy for his shoulders. --- And then makes an Appeal to the Court of Equity in the indifferent Reader, (concluding himself cast at the Common Law of Sence and Reason) *VVhether, if he had discovered his dissolution, it had been either wisdome or discretion to have been publiquely free in his Judgement unto the Protector or the World, &c.* To which I answer:

If you had known any thing thereof, it had been your duty to have acquainted the World therewith; or else to what purpose, or under what pretence, do you invade the World with your Spurious Oracles? Besides, *William Lilly*, if my memory fail me not, you were of another opinion, when you ignorantly scribbled against Captain *George VWharton*; the Example of *Gauricus* could no way startle your stubborn spirit then, although you hope to creep out at that hole now. But why not tell the Protector, or the world thereof, as well as some of his private friends, I pray Sir? Surely, surely, Mr *Merlin*, if you had had but the least knowledge or informa-

tion of the downfall of *Richard*, you would have presented him (as you did the long Parliament in 1652. when you were truly told what the Souldiery would do with them) with an Epistle, thereby premonishing him of what he should expect: And made the world to have heard of the Change from your Parasitical Pen, *Battus-like*, on both sides ;

— *Sub illis*
Montibus, inquit, erant, & erant sub monti-
bus illis.

By yonder Mountains were thy Kine,
The Kine by yonder Mountains were.

Yea, and although you had received the same, as you did the news of the long Parliaments dissolution, you would have pretended to have read poor *Richard*'s downfall in the book of Heaven, as then you did theirs. But neither these confident Cracks, nor yet the two first sheets you as vainly refer us to, as tattle or boast of, your self, do any way make it appear that you had the least knowledge thereof, by information, or that you understood so much of

Art

Art as to direct you therunto : Only you boast and brag of things that are not hoping by such silly shifts and sleights to redeem your (near) shipwrack'd Reputation. And it is every way as unlikely, and strange to the truth — That *Lilly* should acquaint any of his (that is, *Richards*) private friends therewith ; for he durst not lay or adventure a wager thereof himself with a Gentleman that desired the same of him, for satisfaction in that particular. Oh ! *William, William*, all the world are not such Ideots, as to be wrought upon so easily, as *A Chalk-Fury*. But suppose we should admit that you had known any thing thereof, and had said something of it in your two first sheets, (which were an affront to sence to conclude:) I would then fain know, how you came to repent for your folly and ignorance therein ? Surely, Mr *Lilly*, the morning before he writ this Epistle, made some such like supplication at the Altar of the Goddess *Laverna* — as this —

— *Pulchra Laverna,*
Da mihi fallere, da justum sanctumq; videri,
Noctem peccatis, & fraudibus objice nabem ?

*Goddes most fair! this fute dezy me not,
That quack and lye I may, and yet be thought
A Person just: my knavish frauds ore spread
With sable-clouds, that they may ne'r be read.*

Certainly, *William Lilly*, your great Patrons cannot but shake their heads at you, when they seriously consider what a silly Jack-daw, instead of Eagle, they have for many years protected. Would any man think, by these your contradictions and ignorances, that you were the Person, whose Pen formerly was accounted of equall value to a Regiment of Horse? May we not more rationally believe rather, that a Parrot may prove as good an Astrologer as simple *W. Lilly*? Oh! but *William* was mindfull of his Commitment in 1652. where he lay 13. daies together, labouring to be bayled (in no sad condition sure, for he was feasted at Serjeant *Birkhead's* Table all that time, and paid no fees at last) and what was his fault forsooth! he said in effect, *that the Parliament stood upon a tottering foundation, and that the Army would dissolve them.* By which words he would needs insinuate himself to have been a *Quondam* true Prophet in Astrology.

logie. But I pray, *M. Merlin*, deal fairly with the world, and then tell them truly, That your commitment was not for what you said in effect, but for the sawciness which you used plainly to that Power you had a protection from, and a *quondam* Salary too; as I have heard your self confess. But *Lilly* was then in hopes of a better Master of old *Oliver*; therefore (when every man else as well as he, saw plainly that the Souldiery would dissolve the Parliament) out peeps wise *William* like a Political Parasite, and pretends Astrologically to predict it. An admirable Piece of Art to be boasted of!

*And is not he, a Quackist singular,
When things are done, that reads them in his
Star?*

Mr. *Lilly* not forgetting his usual canting-clawing humour, is come to flatter the present Power; and in his Quacking-strain, pretends to demonstrate the Armies Declarations satisfactory to the whole English Nation; and mentions some of the heads thereof, the better to insinuate himself into their Favours and Affections. For *Lilly* cannot fill an Almanack of six sheets

sheets of Paper, (although he have three of them done to his hand, as I have before proved) without relating a packet of News. But *Lilly* ! I would fain know what you have to do with any thing of News, or the humour of the times at all ? Doth *Guido Bonatus, Haly, Junctines, Origin, Ptolomy*, or any other Astrologer warrant any such course ? I am confident, Mr. *Merlin*, they do not : and you prove your self but an impudent indigent Quack in Astrologie, and make that also to be looked upon, but as a higher degree of *Lieger-de-maine*, by doing it. But Mr. *Lilly* goes on, saying, *That no mortal man could have conceived that R. L. P. should have lost his Government, without one or two broken heads.* But I beseech you, Sir, what is this to Astrologie, whether he lost his Government by force of blood, or peaceably ? I am sure, notwithstanding your insulting over that modest Gentleman thus basely, you your self are like to loose your Credit in Astrologie at a far easier rate ; and if you consider every thing, you cannot but see it plainly. For whereas you thought to be famous in after-Ages for your skill therein, you are now like to dye basely, ignominiously, and un-

un-bemoaned ; and (that which is worst of all) will always be esteemed of, as a Quack and Impostor in Astrologie, and a notorious Incendiary among Nations. However, it is some Credit to Astrologie, and Comfort, (yea, and Honour also) to Astrologers, that this Arch-pretender is unmasked and discovered in his life time, to be what he is ; and that he dare not, or cannot, answer for himself.

Notwithstanding all this, *William Lilly* thinks he hath dealt by his Reader like a good Christian Astrologer, when he saies, *We solemnly profess our mistake concerning R. L. P. yet it is not so great, as to blast us perpetually ; if our Writings since 1644. be civilly perused by Artists, not Botchers.* What this Addle-headed Fellow means by his *civilly perused*, I understand not, except it be this, — That for him to be read with applause, whether he deserve it or not, is to be *civilly perused* : or to read him, without taking Cognizance of his Ignorance ; or if we take notice thereof, yet not to tell the world of it : this surely is to *read him civilly*. But Sir ! although I have avoided all these Parasitical ways, (which, as your Trade is to flatter, so you love to be flattered,

flattered, yet) I have civilly perused all your writings since 1644. (i. e. I was not, I dare aver, so drunk with Wine, when I read them, as you with Ignorance, when you writ them :) and really, I find them every way so empty and idle, that it is a shame for any but *William Lilly* to own them. But to particularize some of them:— Take from your *Introduction* (which is the best you dare to boast of) what you have stolen from *Hals*, *Origanus*, and *Albubater*, concealing their better names, to make the world esteem it yours; and then it will prove the exact Emblem of your ignorant self. As for Example: Who but a *Botcher in Art*, would have printed a *Nativity with Directions no less then seven or eight years false*; as you have done the *Moons* in your *Introduction*? Or would any but a Novice in Astrologie have given the *Sun*, and *Mid-heaven* two different Right Ascentions a-piece, as you have? And is not he a *silly Stit-cher*, and most *notorious Botcher in Art*, that knows not *Apogeeon*, from *Perigeon*? These with a hundred more, are to be found in *Lillies Introduction*. And all his other Pamphlets are exactly of the same Complexion.

Nec

Nec lac lacti; nec ovum ova similius.

Twixt Milk and Milk, the likeness is not greater;
Nor Egge to Egge, more parallel in feature.

And as they may call each other *Brethren*, by reason of their exact similitudes; so they may truly call him *Dad*, it being impossible for them to be begotten by any other. But *à diverticulo viam*. I shall return to his solemn profession concerning *Richard L. P.*

Since you are come to the Stool of Repentance, (though most unwillingly) why do not you (to make but one work of all) solemnly profess all your other mistakes, which are at large charged upon you in *Ψευδασεγλογ*; or *Spurious Prognosticator*, and in the *King of Swedes Nativity*? This you ought to have done, if you had any hopes of being received into mercy, or expected to escape *blasting perpetually*. Can the *accursed Murtherer*, any way reasonably hope to be reprieved from the Gallows, by confessing a petty Fact of Theft he hath committed? Sir! it is not your acknowledging

ledging your Error concerning R. L. P. that any way excuses you from the unpardonable Crime of betraying the King of Sweden, under pretence of telling him, you read what you writ for him, in the Heavens : Neither doth this simple Blind, you cast before the eyes of the world, any ways protect your ignorance all along in Art ; viz. in setting Figures forty one minutes of time false ; and in raising your Whimsical Judgements (under pretence of judging according to Art) upon such deformed and erronious foundations. Nor is it less then an ignorant and effeminate sleight, and joggle of you, to insinuate to the world, *that your Antagonists are Botchers, not Artists.* If they are *Botchers in Art*, is it not the easier work for you to answer them ? And would it not more and better become you to invalidate their skill there-in, and weaken their many charges against you, then for to rail thus upon either their Persons or Parts ? Or, are they Botchers in Art because they write against so worthy a Work-man as they have proved you to be ? Surely, surely, *Lilly*, it is more evident then your knowledge in Astrologie, that you have proved your self a Botcher and

and Bungler also, in the Art you pretend to steer the Affairs of Kings and Kingdoimes by, in not vindicating your own Repute, but suffering it to be trampled upon at pleasure ; even by the ignorant sort, as well as the ingenious and skillful. The Tongue of each Child, is now become a Trumpet of *William Lillies* ignorance.

But wise *William Lilly* comes here, simply endeavouring to answer that which is urged against him concerning the *Swedes*, thus : — *We were not obliged to give an account of any thing which might prejudice him ; (the Swede) or give encouragement to his many enemies.* And why not, I pray Sir ? Were you bribed to secrecy, that you might the better betray him, by puffing him up with false hopes ? Or did you flatter him with the weak Winde of your Cathedral Cunning ; thinking thereby his Enemies were so Pusillanimous as to be affrighted at your Quacking Skill ? If the first, have you not shewn your self a plain *Ambo-dexter* ? If the latter, what Ideot (besides *Merlinus Anglicus*) would have been guilty of so gross a piece of Pride ? But that you may adjudge *Lilly* to be in earnest, he interrogates — *Is Pomerania quite lost ?*

or

or is he beaten out of Prussia? &c. And behold! at the same time that he wrote those Boasts and Cracks, (as if Providence intended to stigmatize him for a notorious Lyar) the K. of Swedes leaves his Leaguer, and flees to *Cronenburgh Castle*, having left all his Army in *Fuenen*. Which News is still fresh in memory, and cannot but make *Lillies* Ears to tingle, and Cheeks to blush, unless he hath sold himself an absolute Vassal to Impudence and Quackism. But *Lilly* like a Lyar of the first Magnitude, goes on, interrogating further: *Is not the King of Swede still strongly encamped before Copenhagen? which City we hope God will give him.* Indeed, Mr. *L* he is not before *Copenhagen*, but in *Cronenburgh*, possibly blocked up himself by this time: And what reason (I pray) had you to hope God would give him *Copenhagen*? None in Astrologie, I am sure; although you ignorantly reported that it should be taken in *Novem. 1658*. Besides, hath it not been in print resolved according to the Rules of Art, that the K. of *Swede* shall never gain *Copenhagen*? You should have rendered the Author of that, a person mistaken, or a Botcher in Art (as you say all your *Antagonists* are) before you.

you had promoted your own simple hopes in the room of Astrology; which if you know any thing therein, you cannot but confess plainly, denies *Copenhagen*, and indeed any part of the *Danish Territories*, to be long curbed by the King of *Swede*.

Well, but what of all this? saith this Parasite, the King of Swedes condition is not so bad as rendred by some stitching Pens. If by stitching Pens he mean the Pen of *Merlinus Verax* for one, who hath published this Princes Nativity, I shall tell him, that that Person hath so Art-like whipt and stitcht him up, that he appears to the world a meer bundle or lump of Nonsense and flattery, instead of an Artist. And hath indeed given that King more and better advise for nothing (as is to be seen by the Book, to be sold at *William Larnar's* upon *Ludgate Hill*) touching his present affairs, than ever *Lilly* did, or indeed was able to do, for the Gold Chain he received from him. And he hath shewn more Art, and done Astrology greater honour, in that small Tract, than *Lilly* ever did in all his Idle and Addle Stories, which he nicknames his works, since 1644. But if by stitching Pens, he means some Taylors

Pens, that have been active to discover his ignorance in Art ; Is it not a shame that he can answer for himself no better ? But were there any such thing, doth not *Lilly* appear to be an Impudent, Proud, Pragmaticall, Domineering fellow, so to forget his own Original as to complain of stitching Pens ? What was *Lilly* at first himself ? was he not a Taylors boy, *viz.* an Apprentice to old *Pawlin* in the *Strand* ? Ask the Water-men that ply at *Strand-bridge*, and they will affirm it : Or if you are loath to take that pains, read Captain *Wharton's Merlini Anglici Errata*; who proves him not only a Taylor, but a womans-taylor, in which regard he might perhaps have proved a better Astrologer for Queen *Christina*, than *Carolus Gustavus* King of *Sweden*. Come *William Lilly*, I would have you hereafter to knit your knots better in Astrology, to prevent the being marked for an Ideot therein by stitching Pens ; that is, to keep your self within compass, and not give such large opportunities to men of your own Trade to stitch you up, as you have done. And do not hereafter bewray your own Nest ; for had not your own Pen been the Index of your Pride and Folly, the world had

had willingly rocked your Taylorship asleep ; and were indifferently well contented that you should pass for a Quack in Astrology among them, without any regard had to the Botching you prove your self guilty of, in translating *Ptolemies Aphorismes*. But *William, William*, if you are so Lord-like grown, as to forget the stayers of your Taylorship, by which you have climed (as you think) to your Eagleship in Astrology, can you be angry, if those whom you (scurrilously) term botchers, (not Artists) in a just recompence, press down the Plumes of your Pride with your own Taylors Goose ? Oh, *William, William*, remember *Talion's Law*.

But Mr *Lilly* telleth us, *he writes this year in great perplexity of spirit*. I am content to believe you Mr *Lilly* ; It appeareth so indeed, by what you have presented us with ! And what either Art or fence can we expect from a distempered man ?

To conclude his Epistle, he saies ... *Many will expect that he should say something touching the Northern Quarrel*. Do they so Sir ! Who are those many you mean, I wonder ? I am certain they cannot be of the number of the Learned and Ingenious.

But 'tis no matter; be they who they will this I can tell them, they are like to loose their longing: for *Lilly* hath not yet had intelligence sufficient to officiate their desires. And that which is more considerable, he is not engaged (yet) to Pimp for either of those two able English Generals, as he flatteringly stiles them, in hopes; perhaps he may be entertained to *Quack* for one of them under pretence of Astrology. But I shall advise them both, rather to implore the Dust of Mother *Shipton* for **Counsell**, than either the Addle Pate, or Yeilding Pen of this Proditorious Parasite. And so I pass from his Epistle to his Book, which the ingenious Reader, as well as I, shall find as empty and void of Art, as this his Epistle is of good Apology, Ingenuity, Sence, or Learning.

S E C T. 2.

His Generall Judgements examined.

MR. L. being a little entred into his General Judgments, lets glide from his Pen a truth before he is aware -- telling us — — — That he will deliver his **W E A K C O N-**

C O N C E P T I O N S upon the two *Eclipses*, which hapned in October, and November, 1659. Certainly Sir, you are not in earnest now; you were wont to set a better value upon your own Commodities. What? Is our Eagle-like-skill in Astrology, and our deep knowledge in the Doctrine of Angels, and our sharp understanding in Theurgie and the Chrittall, all on a sudden departed? Never a *Dick-Mye* left to strengthen us? Nothing left us but weak Conception's? This is hard indeed! but possibly Sir! by this your humble stile, you expect that others should deem your Conception's strenuous; which (*Sine dubio*) they will have little reason to do, when they have once read you over. But by the Complexion and Temperature of your Conception's, we shall (I hope) ere we make an end, be able to pass a Judgement upon their weakness, or worth.

To proceed — — Mr L. tells us — — That the *Lunar Eclipse* on Octob. 19. portends, that as Venus, Ruler of it, leaves her own house for a worse, approaching Saturn's presence; so near these Months (he names none, unless we must understand October in the Plurall!) do many unhappy persons (made

so) either by an uncomfortable Ministry, or the Rigor of the Law of Nations, leave good and large possessions, &c. Why *Venus* her propinquity to *Saturn* should undoe people by Ministers, either comfortable or uncomfortable, I understand not ; neither doth Mr *Lilly* I suppose ; for his Art takes no knowledge of any such thing ; what his disaffection to the Ministry may, I trouble not my self to enquire. But that he may discover his unparallel'd hatred to Ministers, he runs over his old song again in a higher strain, thus, — *As Venus is hastening to a Conjunction of Saturn, he much questions whether the meer illiterate man will not get ground of many of those LAZ^Y MEN, whom we call Gospell-Ministers, Church-Divines, or Preaching Divines. Although Venus (as I said before) and Saturn have nothing to do with the Ministry, yet Lilly (the better to spit his venome at the persons of that Sacred Order) wrests his Art from the true meaning thereof, to bring that within the verge of his Sawcy Pen.* But the main reason why this Envious-insolent-fellow cannot Print a foolish Pamphlet without dishonouring that Heavenly Function, is, because the Moon is

is in square to *Jupiter* in his *Swinish Geniture*. But pray Sir ! What is the reason that you tell us not when this Eclipse begins and ends by your Calculation ; that we may see what reason you have (by the figure thereof) to predict at so malicious a rate of Ministers ? but you (I presume) understand the Doctrine of Eclipses, and that of Angels, alike.

But why *Lazy men, which we have called Gospell-Ministers, &c* ? Really, I judge it impossible for any of them you mean to be so lazy in Divinity as you are in Astrology. And why (I pray) such as we have called *Gospell-Ministers* ? &c. Do you believe them to be persons not deserving that Title ? Or, are you turn'd Anabaptist or Quaker all of a sudden, that you thus grudgingly give them the Epithets that are their proper due ? But your love and affection to the Ministry, is sufficiently known ; your scurrilous Pen hath been the Conveyer of your Gall towards them for many years together. Which very thing should, me thinks, make you more civill toward your Antagonists (or your self rather) than to brand them as Ranters and Atheists ; when you cannot but be sensi-

ble, that there are none such notorious Ranters and Atheists as those that scandalously abuse God's dearest Messengers. But *Lilly's Religion and Astrology* are known to be of a stamp.

After many Tautologies and impertinencies, *Lilly* is passed from the Moons Eclipse to that of the Sun, on Novemb. 4. but gives us neither the time of beginning or end; only presents us with the middle, and duration, and Digits eclipsed, though not truly. *The middle* (he saith) is at 9. min. past 3. in the Evening. But he is strangely out in this; for Mr *Wing* hath calculated it, and my self hath proved it, the middle thereof was at 4. min. 30. sec. past 3. So that observe what difference there is between 4. min. 30. sec. and 9. min. for so much is *M. L.* distant from the truth. The Duration, he falsely saith, was 2. h. 3. m. But the true Duration was 2. h. 21. m. 19. sec. as is demonstrable by *Astron. Instaur.* So that Mr *Lilly* is no less than 18. mi. distant from the truth in this also. *Then he saith the Digits eclipsed were 7.deg. 32. sec.* but the true Digits, &c. eclipsed, were 8.deg. 48. min. 1. sec. So that ignorant *William Lilly* is out no less than one whole

Digit,

digit, 47 min. 29 sec. in the quantity of the Eclipse. Now from all these Errors in Calculation, is not *Lilly* likely to make excellent Predictions? But as are his Calculations, so are his Judgements, without either Art or Order. Nevertheless, hence *Lilly* can take opportunity to abuse *Scorpio*, and call it a rugged, treacherous, violent Signe, accounted so by all wise men. But, I pray Sir! how prove you that? except you conclude, what your self agrees to, all wise men must needs consent to. Certainly, Mr. *Lilly*, you cannot have so short a head, as to think that the fortieth part of wise men understand any thing at all of *Scorpio*. And I suppose you would not be so understood, as to censure all men for Fools, that understand nothing thereof. This therefore must pass for one of your wooden 'Twipboans. (i.e.) ranting boasts.

But why, I intreat you, Sir, is *Scorpio* grown so odious in your eyes? Is it because *Saturn* is therein, in your Nativity, and in Opposition to your *Sol*? Or is it because you have an ignorant (undeserved) hatred to any, that have it Horoscopical at Birth? If so, were I a *Scorpionist*, I should tell you, You have foamed out your filth in scandalizing

lizing and abusing a noble, fixed, immovable Signe of the Zodiack, as violent, &c. while you are compelled to draw your poisonous breath under a more treacherous, dissembling, and double-bodied signe of your own, *viz. Pisces*; perhaps a main reason of your forked tongue and actions. *Scorpio* scorns the ignorant, cold, effeminate, reasonless *Evasions*, and low-bered silly come-off's, of *Pisces*; and that galls mutable, and turn-about *William Lilly*, so that he must needs wreak his weak and worthless revenge in Print against it.

But what will *Lilly* say, if I prove he hath bespattered *Pisces* in as base a manner as he hath *Scorpio*? and that in this very Almanack of his too? Will he not confess himself more rigling and uncertain in his Judgement than an Eele? Let him be pleased to peruse what in page two he hath written, *viz.* — — — When the Angles of the Figure of any Eclipse are of double-bodied Signes, as those of the Lunar defect are, the Councils of the then times are uncertain, various and mutable, treacherous, carryed on with abundance of Fraud, Violence and Juggling, &c. But perhaps *Lilly* will say, — — — That *Pisces* is no double-bodied Signe:

In-

Indeed it is no matter what he saies; for by this notorious Contradiction, We may estimate his Conscience to be as large, as his Pen liberal. But passing these things, let us hear him in his Pontificalibus of Language, threatening the poor City of London: Mars in Gemini, gives us great cause to fear LONDON will be the place, and Plague or Pestilence the devouring Disease, &c. — — — God defend it from more, &c. for it was here, here, here, that — — — and it must be here, here, here, that — — —

What this Frenzie-Fellow should mean by his three Couple of HERES, unless it should be to hear an ignorant Quack simply prate, I understand not. Is it not a signe by this, that he writes not onely in perplexity of spirit, as he complains of, but in distraction of minde also? Howbeit, he can (in this distracted temper) ignorantly threaten London with a Plague, although Astrologie doth not (yet) this three years. He hath indeed done so ten years together, and missed; possibly he may hit it at last; if the M.C. ad \square *Saturn* & *Solis* give him leave to present himself a scribbling Fool in print to the world a little longer.

But he advances, saying, — — — The Clergie

Clergie run high, — and stir up Tu-
muls : a thing very frequent with men of
that Order, these six or sevenscore years last
past ; yea, in all ages, &c. Still you see this
Fellow must be abusing the Ministry, and
make that the main burthen of his bung-
ling Predictions. Had his Antagonist been
guilty of any such Crime, he must have been
rendered a *Ranter, Atheist*, and what not ?
And doth *Lilly* think that we shall esteem
him any other then a Ranting-raving A-
theist, that thus bespatters those worthy
Lights of the Church, that constantly spend
their Lamps of Life, to dispel the dark
Clouds of Ignorance, that such Atheists
and Scoffers endeavour to bring upon the
Sun of our Religion ? Or can he take him-
self to be less then a person of a foul sur-
feited Soul, that thus licentiously traduces
the whole Body of Christ's Ministry with
the Poyson of his polluted Pen ? But he
thinks he can come off from all this, by
colloquing thus : — — Still we retain all
Civility both in Heart and Soul for the godly
Ministers. Here you may behold the true
Emblem of this Hypocrites dissembling Af-
fendent, viz. *Pisces*. First, he most basely
and undeservedly abuses the whole Mini-
stry,

stry, and exhibits an impious and unjust
Charge against them, viz. of six or seven-
score years long ; nay, as long as the age
of the world ; and almost in the same
breath, — — *He retains all Civility of*
Heart for them. Oh, the notorious Hy-
pocrisy and Dissimulation of this Cloven-
hearted Fellow ! If this be your Civility,
pray Sir, let me partake of your Morosity.

To render himself as weak in parts, as
hypocritical and dissembling in Spirit, in
the same Page he writes thus : — — *But if*
he shall judge according to the genuine Rules
of the MORE PURER Astrologie, &c.
Can Mr. Lilly tell (I wonder) what himself
means by the Rules of the MORE PURER
Astrologie ? Had that Person whom
Mr. Lilly so wisely terms Atheist, or Ranting,
Impudent Fool, been guilty of jumbling
Comparatives (unlawfully) thus together,
we should have heard of him in some such
like Language : — — Behold the ignorance
of this impudent ranting Boy, that cannot
write fence ! a ridiculous Fool, that hath need
to go to School again ; and not present him-
self to the world in print, until he understand
true English ! All which Epithets, I shall
in modesty spare Mr. Lilly, because he is, in
viridi

viridi Senectute, his green old age. Yet nevertheless I may be bold to tell the world, — That by this passage of his *MORE PURER*, it appears, he understands true English, as much as he doth Astrologie, and no more. And so I pass his idle Discourse of Eclipses, and come to his Vernal Figure. Which he set to 6 h. 9 m. p.m. March 9. but by his own Ephemeris is conspicuously false. Examine it thus else. —

March 9. D. Σ \circ 's place. Σ \times 29d. 43m.
1660. $\{\$ 10. D. Σ $\}$ ν 0 42.

Difference in Longit. \circ . 59m.

Distance of \odot from first point of ν , 17m.

Wherefore I work by this Rule: —

If 59m. give 24h. what shall 17m. give?

Facit 6h. 54m. So that Mr. L. is out no less than 45m. in time, if we make his own Book the Judge. But the true time is at 6h. 51m. 24sec. So that had Mr. L. been true to his own Ephemerides, I should have spared him here. But I admire how *Lilly* stumbled so near upon the truth in his Ephemeris, and yet his Figure so false. Surely he hath been pilfering from *V. Wing*, for reduce *Eichstade* he cannot, unless Mr. *Sponge* help him. But 'tis no matter, be his Figures true or false, he proceeds to judgement,

ment, — and tells us, *Libra ascends, and the Significatrix of the people* (which must be *Venus*, if the Ascendent signifie them) *is well dignified, and in Aspect of the two Superior Planets, &c.* but *Venus* Sir, is in detriment; and by your Figure in *Octava Domo*, and beholds neither *Saturn* nor *Jupiter*; are not you therefore a notorious Ignorant in Art? Who is the Botcher now? Sure I am, if *William Lilly* understood his *Taylors Needle* no better then his *Astrologers Pen*, we may justly conclude him a very botching and bungling Fellow at both. Are not those Kings and States in a sad condition, that are necessitated to take advice about their most emergent Affairs, from so indigent a Fellow?

But *William Lilly* hath learned to talk big, and to utter high-swelling words of vanity, that the common people may believe his head is periwig'd with the Clouds; and tells us — *That toward the latter end of May, or beginning of June or July* (some time or another, 'tis no matter when) *the Conglomeration of no less then five Planets in the Signe Scorpio, a fruitful Signe* (here *Scorpio* is grown into favour again with this two-tongued Ideot) *may justly import*

a meeting together of many people, &c. But Sir, there is no such Conglomeration of the Planets in any of the moneths mentioned, nor in many moneths after; (what Conglomeration of Impudence, Ignorance and Folly, &c. there may be in your brain, I know not;) your Judgement therefore is as idle, as your insinuation false.

But *Lilly* fearing some Change of Government, I suppose (for you must know, that he would have the world believe, that *Revolutions* as are signally pointed at by his Pen, as the Viciſſitude of the Air is foretold by his rotten Carcase) begins to tell his Readers.—That as some Pratlers abuse Oliver Protector, — Thus do other viperous Tongues and Pens deprave even the whole line of the Stuarts Family, and call it accursed; whilst their own is owned more abominable. All that I shall return to this passage, is this:—That if he can finde any man in Europe that hath dealt more viperously with that Family then himself, both in Tongue & Pen, let him bring them within his Lash; if not, let him pass under his own Censure, for a fellow of a viperous Tongue and Pen, and consider what he hath written in his Monarchy, and his Almanacks

Almanacks for the years 1649, 1650, 1651, 1652, 1653, 1654. and other his foolish Pamphlets: But perhaps he thinks, to write against an honourable Family, is not to abuse it.

So from his Vernal, I follow him to his Aſtival Ingress; where he asserts that *Sol* enters *Cancer*, June 10 d. 9 h. 12 m. P. M. but this is as true as the former, as I shall make appear by his own Book. Which (setting aside his Printers errors) I examine thus.

June	{ 10 }	○'s place.	{ II 29 d. 36 m.
1660.	{ 11 }		5 o. 33.

○'s Diurnal Motion. o. 57.

His distance from the first point of \textcircled{S} , is 24m

Then I say, If 57m. give 24h. what 24m? Facit 10 h. 6 m. So that here you see, he is mistaken no less then 54m. in time, as his own Book proves against him. Oh! Monstrum horrendum! An Astrologer, and cannot set a true Figure!

However, Mr. L. adventures upon this Scheme also, to deliver his WEAK CONCEPTIONS, and says— The Heavens do not at all smile upon the Actions of Kings,

Princes, Supreme Magistrates and Authorities. For which passage I shall account with him anon. But although Mr. *Lillies* Astrologie fail him, yet his good Tute-
lary or Presidentiary Angels do not sure, whom he saith,---*Generated that very quick Comet in 1652.* (not so quick neither as an *ignis fatuus* ; for it lasted a whole moneth together) as the precursor of some eminent Person or Persons, or their rising unto honor in Europe, &c. Before Mr. *Lilly* had ad-
ventured to predict ought to depend upon the Influences of Comets, he should have made his way clear, by removing the stumbling block that lay in it. For I deny (and so doth learned *Aristotle*, and most Natu-
ralists) that Comets are generated by his Tute-
lary or Presidentiary Angels, but are engendred of *Ignean Vapors*, consisting of a viscous, sulphurous, and compacted mat-
ter, attracted from the Earth by the E-
nergie of the Cœlestial Movers, into the highest Region of the Air, sometimes into the Starry Region, whence it is closely conglutinated into a great Lump, by rea-
son of the continued supply it hath from below: and being thus compacted, is set on fire in time convenient, by the exces-

five heat of the place where it rests, and burns either long, or a little while, accor-
ding to the paucity or plenty of the mat-
ter of which it consists. This is the opi-
nion of the learned generally. And surely Mr *Lilly*, it will be no ill-concluding Ar-
gument, to say ——— He that is igno-
rant in the Generation of Comets, must be so also in their effects. But Mr *L.* tattles of Comets, and Angels, to cover his igno-
rance in Astrology only ; he poor man ! knows no more of the natures or effects of either, than the silliest Porter that trots about the Streets of an Errand, or his poor Sister (the Washer-woman) in *Milford-Lane*.

But whether he understand Comets, &c: or not, he boasts as if he understood all things ; and quackingly tells us, ——— The *Austrian* forces seem to be threatned near this time, either with the loss of some battell, or town, &c. if any thing at all be concerned in war or quarrel with the not conque-
red Swedes, whose forces now, where in Action, will make it appear they fight for a good King, and in a good honest cause. And how comes it about that the *Austrians* must be thus menaced ? Is it meerly upon this sup-

position grounded, if they fight against the not conquered Swede? But pray Mr *Lilly*, what Rule in Astrology have you to predict the Swedish King to be good, and his Cause honest? Will you never leave your clawing Parasiticall Practises? But a little further good *William*! If the King of Swedes be assured victory over the Austrians,---How comes it to pass that *Lilly* predicted that *the heavens smile not upon the Actions of Kings, &c.* as before you have heard him? Are *Lillies* Angels of no better use to him, than thus to suffer him to run into Errors and Contradictions? Or, hath his good Genius left him? But what will *Lilly* say, if the Swedes and Austrians never quarrell? --- If they do not, then creeps he sneakingly out at his great *IF!* For his Predictions depend upon *ifs* and *ands*, although the Coelestial Edicts do not. All his presages are whimsical Castles in the aire; and If the sky fals, *Lilly* and his Swedish King may catch Larks together.

But saith *Lilly* --- *The Swedes cannot be made subject to those misfortunes, as some scribbling Pens would have them.* --- If the Comet in 1618. did first appear in 25.d.

of

of m --- Then we find the \odot in that very degree at the King of Swedes birth, applying to a Δ \mathfrak{A} in M. C. and D applying to his *. Remove these Configurations out of the Heavens, and then his enemies may rant and prate, as some very botchers, not workmen, impertinently have done, &c. But such either be or they are men of no quality, but Nameless Botchers, he or they are below our Pen to take a full Cognizance thereof, their prating or persons --- Aquila non capit Mulcas; we should make our self ridiculous to answer a boy, or a ranting-impudent fool, that dare not own his Name to be G.I. or I.G.

If I do not prove this ambitious Parasite as botching a Fellow, and of as mean Quality, and a verier Boy in Art, than him whom he scurilously stiles so; yea, though his Presidential Angels should take his part; --- Let *William Lilly* again say, he hath but a Boy to deal with. First, his citing the Comet 1618. to favour the King of *Swede*, is both vain and foolish. And if it signifie any thing (It happening 4 years before he was an Embryo) it must be mischief: Yea, and such as those *ills* (whom this Botcher terms Scribblers) have mentioned. *Aristotle, Pliny, and Cicero* say

say, — Comets are the Messengers of great Calamities, and of the death and destruction of Kings, &c. but never of any good to them. The Noble Historian *Suetonius*, writing on *Claudius*, Cap. 26. hath these words — *Presagia mortis ejus precipua fuerunt exortus stellæ crinitæ, quam Cometa vocant: The Principal presages of his death were risings of the hairy star they call a Comet.* But suppose I should (for discourse sake) admit the Comet in 1618. to signify good to the King of *Sweden*, because his ☽ fell to be in the degree of its first appearance; yet his ☽ happening in the opposite point thereof, if the one portended any good, the other must evill; and *William Lilly* still appear a silly-shifting fellow, that would force that to speak for Kings, that in truth hath neither heart or face to do so.

Yea, but saith *Lilly*, the ☽ applies ad △ ♈ in *M.C.* and ☽ to his ♀ also. — All which I grant; and *Merlinus Verax* hath made as much of those things for the *Swede*, as Astrologically they will bear. But *Lilly*, you appear very partiall in not relating the Bad, as well as the Good, as he hath done: for to balance those good Arguments

gements you mention, he tells you that ♈ is retrograde in the tenth house, afflicted by the corporall presence of ™, and both in ☽ ♀, Lady of his Ascendant; and that the Luminaries are in opposition from cruel and iniurious places of the Heavens; Besides the most pernicious Direction of *M.C.ad ♈*, which he now groans and labours under, whose effects are these: — *Maximas indignitates & odia Principum aut Magnum judicit; vario quoque malorum genere, dignitates, officia, honores atque favores subvertit: Negotia cum tarditate natum proficere facit, facinorosa vero scelere excitat, & nonnunquam mortem latu judicis sententia portendit.* — But it may be *William Lilly* hobbles thus at the King of *Sweden*'s Fate, hoping to baffle the effects of such a like direction, that will shortly happen in his own Nativiry. But *William*, I can assure you upon my honest word, that the *M.C.ad ♈* & ☽ portends more than a fit of the stone; & this you will shortly find true, unless you can implore the assistance of some of those Angels you boast of, to remove malignant ™ out of the Heavens. But *Lilly* confesses, that others have catechised him for this his folly; but

faith, they are *Nameless impudent Botchers, and persons of no quality*; and therefore they are beneath his Pen to take Cognizance of; *Aquila non capit Muscas.* All this Sir is but your *ipse dixit*; for the Fame of those that have disfected your Ignorance, is every whit as splendid as *William Lillies*, although they began to labour in the harvest of Astrology long after him. It is true, they are not (as I hear of) famous for trepanning Kings; or for Star-gypsies, or Planet-Quackers, or Angel-Mongers, &c. And that perhaps is the reason why *Lilly* terms them persons of no quality. If by men of no quality, *Lilly* mean in respect of their birth, or parts; His poor leather-jacqueted Father of *Diseworth*, an obscure Village in *Leicestershire*, were he alive, could not but shed tears for grief that ever he should breed up a Son to so much Arrogancy, and vain-glory; as knowing it impossible for any man to come of a meaner stock than himself.

But why doth *Lilly* urge the Adage, *Aquila non capit muscas*? Doth he hope to excuse his Credit, by insinuating his Antagonist a Flye? O doth he suppose there is as great a difference between the person he

he calls impudent Boy and himself, as is between an Eagle and a Fly? *Lilly*, I know it is above an *Eagle* to catch at a *Fly*! But *Bubo*! it is not above a *Buzzard* to answer a *Boy*! But why should William esteem himself an *Eagle*? In knowledge it cannot be, I am sure; and I have heard some say, not in Estate neither. In the first, he cannot but see I have proved him an *Owl* rather, and this all along: and would have him therefore, if his *Almanack* go any more to the Press, to correct his *Errata*, and remember for *Aquila* to insert *Bubo*. In the second, he cannot be an *Eagle* neither, if *Vox Populi* be true; for they say, As he hath gotten an Estate like a K — he hath parted with it like a F — and is become a poor Tenant for his life. But why make your self ridiculous to answer a *Boy*? except you suppose your self incapable of excusing those errors the *Boy* chargeth upon you, without contracting as many more? That (I readily acknowledge) were the way to make your self ridiculous indeed! But why must you childishly throw the *Boy* at your Adversary? I can tell you Sir! He is no such *Boy*, but that he is able

to

to crack your crown, as he hath done your credit in Astrology. And perhaps he would too, were not the Amulet of A G E your protection and security. However, I shall return you in exchange for your Boy, the Adage, ————— *Διπάδες γέποτες*. But this is the despight of it, *Lilly* is such a Boy in Learning, he cannot English it.

But why Ranting-impudent Fool? If Folly be a privation or defect of wisdome, or ingenuity, *Lilly* is the absurdest Fool that ever I either read or heard of. And for the concomitants of his Fool --- *Ranting and Impudence*; I think it impossible for any man to surpass him. Well, but saith *Lilly*, --- *This Impudent, Ranting Fool, or Boy, dare not own his Name to be G.I. or I.G.* Here, Mr *Merlin*, you do homage only to the Father of lies, (whom it may be you are better acquainted with, than with the Angels you tattle and boast of.) For he hath owned *G. I.* as the initiall Letters of his Name in the spurious Prognosticator, to your sorrow: but *Lilly* hath little list to cope with either the Author, or the Book; the one being so repugnant to his Principles, the other to his skill. But besides, it is not for fear of *Lillies Pen*, that

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the Author forbears to set his name at length, but for the forementioned Reasons.

Mr. *Lilly* having flittered and beat his Eagle-ship out of breath, in the *Aestival Quarter*, is now come to the *Autumnal*, and saith, *Oct. enters Septemb. 12. at noon.* Yet if you consult his own Ephemeris, you will find *Sol's* place that day at noon, in 29 d. 58 m. *rx.* Could any Boy of a moneths reading in Astrologie be guilty of greater Impudence and Ignorance, then this? Or did ever any man rant so vainly under the Canopy of Astrologie, and know so little thereof, as doth this Owl *Lilly*? *No more Eagle Sir! until your skill be mended.*

Howbeit saith *Lilly*, --- *This Figure and Vernal Scheme agreeing with the King of Swedes Nativity, —— Let his Majesties Enemies brag of this ill position of Heaven, which by Gods blessing may render him victorious in the Acquisition either of a Battel if he be in Campania; or a City or Town if in the Siege of one; or if at Sea, a Maritime Victory.* If false Figures promise Victory, *Lilly* may prove a true Prophet in some of these things: but certainly from false Figures, fallacious Victories must be presaged.

aged. And such will those be, that the K. of Swede obtains about this time; notwithstanding *Lillies* Parasitical Pen. For *Saturn* is now in Quartile to the place of the dire Direction but lately mentioned; and to the Cusp of the King of *Swedens* hopes in his Radix and Revolution also. But *Lilly* is to be read backward, as men read Hebrew: when he promiseth Victory, let the King of *Sweeden* be sure to expect loss.

For conclusion, *Lilly* saith, *It was his intention, had he not been prevented, to have delivered somewhat of the Tutelary and Presidential Angels. &c.* and boasts of the Expositors that follow the Septuagint, and of the Fathers, *viz.* *Dionysius, Origen, Basil, Nazianzen, Clemens Alexandrinus, Damascen, Hillary, &c.* But he understands the Doctrine of Angels, and those learned Fathers, both alike: (*i. e.*) as much as he doth Astrologie, *viz.* onely to brag and boast with, that he may the better pass for a Scholar among the ignorant. And to this end, steals three or four sayings (which he understands not) out of *Dingley* of Angels, (who cites those Authorities he impertinently mentions) and would needs enforce them upon the world as the fruits

of

of his own Phlegmatick and Drowsie Contemplation and Studies: and for a farewell, triflingly concludes, — *This learning will finde cold entertainment with Atheists, Ranters and Paddies.* Certainly if Mr. *Lilly* be the Author of it, 'twill be fit onely for the reading of such kind of Fellows; and those (perhaps) are his principal Acquaintance and Disciples. But what Mr. *Lilly* should mean by *Paddies*, I cannot devise, (for *Rider* and *Thomas* own no such word) unless he mean one that bestrides the King of *Swedes* Sumpture Horse; which if he do, now he hath crackt his Credit in Astrologie, I would have him become Probationer for the place. So I descend from his general Prognostications, to his monethly Fictions; which I shall but lightly examine, and so pass them, until the whole year shall more particularly inform me of his failings. For I question not, but his Predictions, and those of *Montelion* Knight of the Oracle, as they are calculated for one and the same Meridian of Truth, and have one and the same foundation in Art, so one and the same success will crown them.

Sect.

SECT. 3.

His Monthly Fictions examined.

IN January Mr. Lilly predicts, ---Not standing the ranting and ryming Pamphlets of illiterate Fellows, we bope some considerable victory will be gained by the Swedes, &c. Indeed Sir, the *M. C. ad h.* comes on too fast for this to be true. But if the King of *Swede* had no such Direction operating, what Reason or Authority hath *Lilly*; to prefer his own ignorant hopes in the room of Art? or doth all his skill in Astrologie depend upon hopes and expectations, without any solid demonstration? Doth this ignorant fellow think, that *Mars* his now squaring $\frac{1}{4}$ in the King of *Swedes* Nativity, and at the same time transiting the tenth house thereof; (together with a Quartile of *Sol* and *Saturn* from the third and fifth Houses both of his Radical and Revolutionary Figures) do any way augment or encourage his hopes? *Lilly!* these

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Arguments will prove you an absolute Lyer. I confess, had the Swede only ranting and ryming Pamphlets to oppose him, he might escape the better, although he never consulted *Lillies* lying-Almanack.

In *March* he scramblingly writes, --- *If the season permit, the scrambling Pens of Ideots will prove false Prophets.* Did ever any man, that pretended to understand sence, render himself a more scrambling Ideot than *Lilly* doth here? Prethee, Mr *Lilly*, tell me what season that is, which the scrambling Pens of Ideots (or others) prove Prophets in; let them be either true or false. Is it Spring, Winter, Summer, Autumne? I protest for this conceit, I could afford to Chronicle thee, *WISE WILLIAM LILLY* in the next Impression of *Erra Pater*; but that were to abuse thee more than this book is designed to do; for 'tis the office and duty of this to speak truth. But (saith he) *some happy success near this time is designed for his Majesty of Swede.* If any such thing be designed, it must be either by the energy of the Heavens, or some other power: by the Heavens there is no such thing designed,

ed, but the contrary; as *M. C. ad ♂ & ♀*, (nearly touching now) denotes, it being attended on by an ♂ of ♀ and ♀, celebrated in the Twelfth and Sixth Houses of his Radix and Revolution also; presaging much Treachery and Infortunacie, in the room of the happy success *Lilly* boasts of. If it be promised by any other power, *Lilly* should have told us so: but a Golden Bribe can bend a Buzzards Pen any way.

In *April* he rantingly writes— *Let men and devils, or all earthly devils do their worst, the Noble Swede will now again be successful, according to his present condition, even by Sea or Land, or near it.* This good Christian Astrologer, complained of Atheists and Ranters, &c. that were his Antagonists; but could any Atheistical or Ranting Fellow in the world, write more Rantingly and Atheistically, then himself hath here? *Let Men and Devils, and all earthly Devils, &c.* Sure this ranting-raving Fellow supposes, that the *Swede* hath, not men, but devils to encounter with; or else what doth he mean, by such ranting hellish expressions? But why earthly Devils? Doth he believe there are any Devils in Heaven? But (saith he) *Let those*

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Devils do their worst, the K. of Swede will be successful. If the *Swedes* Enemies, (which this malicious Fellow terms Devils) do but their worst, the *Swede* may then be successful, as he groundlessly writes: *But Sir! they are like to do their best, and not their worst; and so will leave you a devilish Lyar to Posterity.* But *he will be successful by Sea or Land, or near it;* saith this Barbarian in Art and Learning. Certain I am, the ♂ of ♂ and ♀, and ♂'s transiting the radical place of ♀, considered, together with his sad Revolutionary Figure, denies him success at Sea or Land. What he may (by Mr. *Lilly's* Predictions) expect near it, I know not: perhaps he dreamt of some airy happiness and success, when he writ this venomous Fancie.

In *May* this Impostor predicts, — *The Heavens shew much hope for settlement of France and Spain, in league and amity.* This he perfectly reads in the Heavens too, (O rare Monthly Observator!) although the peace betwixt those Princes was concluded six Months before, as the News-Books had acquainted him: for you must know, he studies them more then he doth old *Ptolemy*.

Lilly skips from *April* to *September* without mentioning the least particle o the Swedish King. And then (too late) tells him. — *The Heavens give caution to him, &c.* For then his game (in despite of *Lillie's* flattery) is near at an end. This counsel (*Lilly*) you should have given him at the beginning of the year, if you had dealt as fairly by him, as he hath nobly by you.

In *October* this pedantick Parasite cants — *That the K. of Swedes, in despite of all opposition, cannot fail of many successes in or near this month* : Surely Sir ! spiteful successes, will do the Victor no durable service. But what must these successes be, I wonder ? why saith *Lilly*, *Such as his present occasion requires.* Now if the K. of *Swede* (being a *Souldier*) should happen (for want of *conveniency*) to be invaded with a *Souldiers Fortune*, *viz.* to be stronger within, then without ; and in this condition obtain the happiness (or success) of a clean shirt, *Lilly* shall have the honour of predicting it *Astrologically*. But one pretty piece of *Policy* I meet with in *wise Williams Octobers Observations*, that makes me smile at the writing thereof : 'tis this : It then

then being about *Almanack time*, and *Lilly* believing that he shall be lash'd, as the last year, (for he knows he hath notoriously deserved it) and that you may think he reads the same in the *Heavens*, he learnedly (by this his sharp *Præscience*) predicts — *Some botching Atheist now bespatters him.*

*And is there any Delian Wizzard can
In Planet-Quacking match this cunning
Man ?*

In *November* he again temporizes with the *Swede*, thus : — Either with full peace, or much happiness, the *Swedes* are blessed according to their present condition. Prethee, *Lilly*, tell me, how thou camest to be so base a Flatterer ? Dost thou see ♂ upon the place of ♂, and ♀, ♂ and ♀ in ♀, and all in ♂ to ♀'s Radical place, in the King of *Swedes* Geniture ? I am perswaded, thou makest thy self a Parasite on purpose, or else thou knowest not ♂ from thy Taylors Bodkin.

But to conclude all his wise work, In December's right-hand-page he writes, — *The guilty find friends.* And in the left, verifies it in himself, thus --- *If Jupiter were not in Libra,* (his Printer hath made it *June*, but I scorn as much to retort that upon him, as he thinks it beneath him to answer a Boy) *Saturn would afflict poor Anglicus.* *Providence still provides for him friends.* Go on *William* ! Confess all your sins, and guiltiness of all kinds ; and consider that your end draweth on, and the *M.C. ad □ h & ⊖* is coming apace ; and flatter not your self as you have done the King of *Swede*. You will begin to claim the Title of an aged Parasite in Astrology : Flatter not your self therefore. For it is not \mathfrak{U} in \simeq that can any way stead you. Is not \mathfrak{h} returned to his own place, and the opposite place of the Sun ? Is not your Revolution notoriously cruel, and mischievous also ? And how should \mathfrak{U} in \simeq help you ? Doth \mathfrak{U} behold either the Ascendant, or \odot in your Nativity ? Is he not in \square of *Luna* ? Flatter not your self, I say : Learn Astrology (for once) from a Boy ; And if at last \mathfrak{U} in \simeq fail you, say you had an enemy dealt more

more faithfully with you, without a Gold Chaine, than you did with the King of *Sweden for one*. So I leave *William Lilly* in the ~~worst~~ of his Flatteries and Ignorance, as I found him.

E R R A T A.

Page 34. line *Antepenult*, read 8 digits.
P. 37. l. 2 5. r. *Saturni*. P. 48. l. 9. r. *the risings*.
P. 50. l. 2 5. r. *Aquila*.

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A Person of Honour, by Name Montelion, or the Knight of the Oracle, having taken great pains in the calculating divers Nativities, some of Jury-Packers, Chalke-Merchants, Wife-Poysoners, Widdow-Undoers, Trepanners, &c. and the Genitnres of Mrs. P. W. L. Grace L. and I. F. at large; being a true and perfect Emblem of the

the cross match mentioned in Dr. Dee's Book of Spirits: it is therefore desired, that the Learned Minister (Lilly mentions) would insert these in his intended Book of Nativities, that his Collection may be the more compleat.

F I N I S.
